WYNNUM MANLY

HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC.

May 2020 Newsletter

NEWS

Due to the COVID-19 health crisis, there will be NO general meetings and the Resource Centre is closed until further notice

We are continuing to publish a monthly newsletter. Any contributions are always welcome.

CONTENTS

- EA Boden chemist shop
- Wynnum's early water supply
- Colonial houses in Wynnum Manly Lota
- St Helena Island Community—When death changes history

From the President

Greetings and welcome to our May Newsletter.

We successfully held our Annual General Meeting on 16 April 2020 and your new committee is now in place. Welcome to our newest committee member, Geraint Gregory, who has taken on the Treasurer role.

It is great news to hear that the COVID-19 restrictions are gradually being eased although it is not yet possible to hold general meetings or reopen the Resource Centre.

From this month, we will have a new series in the monthly newsletter by Belinda Daly from St Helena Island Community. I have been working with Belinda researching primarily the warders who were part of the St Helena Island Penal Establishment's history. My interest in St Helena goes back to the time before it was a Prison. My 2nd great grandparents, James and Elizabeth Crompton, were living and working on St Helena Island before it was a Prison. Why were they there? Read the article on pages 8-10 written by Belinda Daly. My 2nd great grandmother, Elizabeth Crompton (nee Greenough) died on the Island and was buried there but sadly her exact place of burial on St Helena Island has never been established.

During the isolation, has anyone started a diary or a journal recording their life during this period and how it is affecting them. This is indeed history in the making and in the future, this will be of interest to many people. If you have kept a diary or journal, would you like to share some of it with the Society via the newsletter? You can remain anonymous should you so desire.

There is a wonderful Facebook page called **Wynnum Manly Lota old photos** that I have been following. There have been so many wonderful old photos and reminiscences on there so for anyone with Facebook access, I would highly recommend checking it out. As far as the Society goes, who went to school in the area? Do you remember your teachers' names? Do you have school photos? Please share by emailing to news-letter@wmhs.org.au. Your contributions will help the Society with its mission to gather and record the area's history before it is lost.

Stay safe and well.

Best wishes, Sandy

Resource Centre Report May 2020



Even though the Resource Centre is temporarily closed, I have still been busy answering research requests coming in to the Society. Some of the requests have included:-

- ANZAC Cottage at Wynnum North
- Location of King Street
- Old pictures of Gumdale
- Building of 93 Alkoomie Street
- Details of Frank Attey Hale
- Details of Mr Justins
- Former owners of 66 Wassell Street
- 20+ year old booklet of local pictures, about 40 pages—does anybody own this book?

If anyone can help with any information regarding these requests, please let me know on 3393 3208 or email library@wmhs.org.au

Librarian Jill

PROJECTS YOU MAY BE ABLE TO ASSIST THE SOCIETY WITH

We are looking for volunteers who may be able to assist us with some projects to help the Society document and record the history of this wonderful area. The initial projects, which can be done from home, include:-

- **Digitising** We are keen to start digitising some of our records. Do you have a scanner at home and be able to assist by scanning some documents onto a USB (which we will supply)?
- Transcribing Is there anyone out there who used to be a Dictaphone typist and has a home computer? We can supply a foot pedal and ear phones for you to help us in transcribing some of the older oral history interviews and early recorded meetings. The digital files will be supplied via email and you can listen to them on your home computer and transcribe in your own time at home.

If you are interested, let me know and I will discuss the requirements with you. You need only do as little or as much as you like. Any little bit will assist the Society.

Sandy

Transcribed from The Wynnum Redlands Herald, 20 November 1985



Ethel's watched times changing

When **Ethel Ann Boden** smashed down a wall renovating her soon-to-be chemist shop premises in Edith Street, Wynnum, in 1949 and looked towards the Bay she could hardly believe her eyes. From the shop on the corner of Edith Street and Bay Terrace she could see straight through to the blue waters of the southern beaches.

"I thought it was out of this world," the now, 80 year old, long established Manly resident sighed." "I didn't know what I had bought." When the 44 year old pharmacist moved in and renovated an old wooden grocer's store that year it was the only building in the street. Times have changed in Edith Street since then. The **EA Boden chemist shop** is no longer there and **Rogers Men's Wear** has replaced the familiar sign with their own.

Mrs Boden, who was married to prominent barrister **Bill Boden**, herself played a part in altering the commercial face of Wynnum when, in 1956, she built several shops which adjoined her premises.

Reedman's Drapers occupied one of the premises for several years and Mrs Boden's daughter and son-in-law, **Bob and Joan Quinn**, opened the **Quinn Kelk menswear store** next door to the chemist.

Today a camera shop, OPSM, Sanitarium Health Foods and Rogers Men's Wear trade on the old Boden premises. On the spot where gentlemen eye underwear specials, Mrs Boden probably once ground her own medicines in a mortar and pestle. She made her own eye drops, emulsions and tablets.

"We made castor emulsions by the dozen," she said. "Also cachets, capsules and suppositories." Mrs Boden blames the mortar and pestle for causing "holes" in her hands for which she has lately had to have operations.

The Toowoomba country girl became a fully fledges pharmacist in 1927 at the age of 21. "I was on top of the world as many students from Toowoomba had sat for the exams several times and I passed on my first attempt," she said. Mrs Boden was part of the vanguard of women professionals. "In those days, very few girls worked and it was looked down upon," she said.

However, when the second world war broke out, the attitude to women in the work force changed. Mrs Boden was asked by the government to go back to work in 1941, after she had a 10 year break bringing up two daughters. "Brisbane was a besieged city, full of Americans," she remembered. She worked for the **Brisbane Association of Friendly Societies (BAFS)** at the corner of George and Turbot streets for four war years, often returning home to Wynnum by train during total black outs.

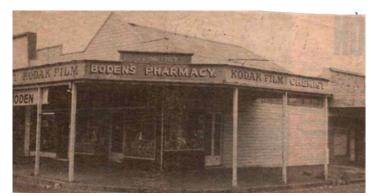
Her family moved to Wynnum in 1941. "I heard about the bombing of Pearl Harbour on my way down," she said. Mrs Boden reflected with a tinge of resentment that she also often went home hungry as the local café wouldn't serve Australians because they didn't pay enough for the rationed food. "They only served the Americans because they could tip and we couldn't, so we didn't get served," she said.

After the war the BAFS then sent Mrs Boden to Wynnum to open a branch opposite the **Moreton Bay High School.** Four years later she was ready to open her own business "from scratch" in Edith Street. By 1962, when she sold out to **Week's Chemist**, she had four shop assistants and a part time dispenser working for her.

Mrs Boden then devoted her retirement years to the Blue Nursing Service and her love of the theatre. She was president of the **Ladies Auxiliary of the Blue Nursing Service** for many years and only retired as the president of the **Mercury Theatre** in 1983. She still is actively involved in the **Mercury Youth Theatre**. "I go down and help whenever I can," she said. Once a year she works "like a navvy" for the Eisteddfod.

With the dogged perseverance and confidence that led her through her successful career she said: "I have to go down to help because nobody else can do what I do down there."

Ethel Ann Boden was named woman of the year by Quota in 1971.



Wynnum Redlands Herald, 20 November 1985

Mrs. E.A. Boden's Pharmacy, Corner Bay Terrace and Edith Street, around 1960.

Now the store trades as "Bare Traps", a shoe store.

April 2020 Where was I?

ABN 49 071 835 845 I



I was standing at the northern end of Bay Terrace at the junction with Berrima Street. Here the former buildings of Woodforth's garage are being demolished to make way for the building of another highrise residential block. The demolition so far has uncovered the old garage signage.

Ronald James Woodforth was born in 1897 in Newstead, Brisbane. The family came to Wynnum in 1911.

Ron served an apprenticeship then opened his own cycle shop in Florence Street in 1920, soon moving across the road to premises next to the playing field of Wynnum Central State School in 1922.

In 1928 Ron moved his business into Bay Terrace, between Edith and Clara Streets, opposite the old Post Office.

In 1951 Ron built a new modern service station on the tennis court at the corner of Bay and Berrima Street. This is the building now being demolished, pictured here.

May 2020 Where am I?



Till next time,

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Jill

May 2020

Wynnum Early Water Supply



Pre 1908

The free, public, fresh water supply for animals. campers and day trippers, in William (Akonna) Street, near Florence Street.

21 August 1990

Florence Street, Wynnum

Adjacent to the General Gordon kindergarten

Article from the Wynnum Herald

Historic 'danger spot' partial collapse of its cover, only supply of fresh public water for the Wynnum area until 1908 when the council The underground tank was fed by pipe from a spring be-Lamond's Real Estate in Terrace, Wynnum and kindergarten quite often with another child lagging behind. upplied holiday goers and I'm worried one could stray In the dry season, farmers nd dairymen used this water for their animals and considerable opposition existed to the sale of the "Water Reserve" as the area around The property's owner said the hole would be cemented Ms Mason's neg the tank was known. looks at the hole in the tank cover - "could be This was placated by the Council through the construc-tion of elevated tanks. dangerous for children Eric



14 April 2020

Florence Street, Wynnum

Next door to the General Gordon kindergarten is the timber cover over the well

Colonial Houses in Wynnun, Manly and Lota. (1880 – 1905)

Last month I asked members to find a Colonial house in the district. Remember, a Colonial House(1880 – 1905) has a stepped verandah roof, that is the verandah roof is attached to the wall of the house..



Here is one contribution (but unfortunately in Stanton Street, Cannon Hill), where one of our members lived as a child. Clearly the verandah is attached to the side of the house and is not part of the main roof. This Colonial Gable style house has a "stepped verandah roof".

And here is another contribution. This is the rear of a Colonial gable house with a skillion roofed kitchen attached to the rear. This house was in Wellington Street, Manly and the front of the house looked out onto the bay. One cannot see the front verandah but the simple style with a steep single gabled roof and kitched attached to the back of the house is typical of a colonial house (1880s to 1890s).





This third contribution is that of a Colonial Short- ridge roofed home is in St Catherines Terrace and dates from 1880s to about 1905.

The verandah roof is stepped and convex. The steps are centred opposite the front door. The front porch has been added and the battens between the stumps

Thank you to our sponsors.

Ben Murray is the Franchise owner of Cartridge World Wynnum.

Ben supplies toner for our printers.

Why not visit him too, for all your printer needs?



We thank

Joan Pease,

Member for Lytton and the members of her Office for the monthly printing of our newsletter

The BUNGALOW class of house style. (About 1900 – 1930s)

Instead of a stepped verandah roof there is a **continuous roofline**; that is the verandah does not have a separate roof. The roof can rise to a pyramid, short ridge or a hip (all sides of the roof slope upwards to meet at a ridge) A continuous roof is described as the main roof also covering the verandah.

Bruce Pattison sent in a photo of his grandparent's House



"Carnalea", purchased in 1916

This Bungalow has pyramid-shaped roof with an L-shaped verandah, under the main bungalow roof.



The house today at 201 Wynnum North road

The pyramid roof is clearly seen. The L-shaped verandah would have been to the right side of the photograph, where the main roof extends downwards to a very acute angle to cover the verandah. The roof to the left of the photo ends at a right-angle, at the end of the front verandah. Sash windows with sun hoods are clearly seen. Casement windows were not introduced until about 1916.

Many of this Bungalow-style of house still remain in this district. The bungalow has no extra forward projections or gables and the verandah is under the main roof.

Please can you find a n example and send me a picture?

Thank you. Jill library@wmhs.org.au

The St Helena Island Community

www.sthelenacommunity.com.au

WHEN DEATH CHANGES HISTORY

(written by Belinda Daly)

Two deaths permanently changed our understanding of the many chapters of St Helena's history. The arrival of Elizabeth Crompton's death certificate and the obituary of her son, Thomas, did not fit into any known history of St Helena Island. Elizabeth's death certificate revealed she had died and was buried on St Helena Island in 1865. Thomas' obituary read:

Mr. Thomas Crompton who died ... at the age of 74 years, was born at Bolton, Lancashire, England. He arrived in Brisbane in 1863, and first lived at St. Helena with is parents. With his father and brothers he was engaged in burning off at St Helena for Mr. James Campbell.

None of this made sense. What was a woman doing on St Helena Island early in 1865, before the Quarantine Station or the Gaol were even a concept in the Government's mind? In 1865, St Helena Island was only known for the occasional quarantining of immigrant ships, or as a base for dugong hunting and preparation at the rough 'boiling down works' on the Island. Thomas' recollection of having been involved in 'burning off' on the Island made no sense either, as the forest and scrub on the Island was largely intact on the arrival of prisoners to build their prison, being burnt off mainly between 1867 and the early 1870s.

It was first suggested that the family was on the Island due to the head of the family, **James Crompton**, being involved as a building supervisor for the new St Helena Gaol however the dates didn't support this aspect. In fact in 1865, **James Crompton** and his family had found themselves in great financial and personal difficulties and must have been wondering if their journey for a new beginning in a new land was all a major mistake.

James Crompton and his wife, **Elizabeth (nee Greenough)** emigrated from England to Moreton Bay in 1863 with their large family:

James and Elizabeth Crompton and their surviving children arrived in Moreton Bay on the 1129-ton three-masted Hannah More (Captain William Brown) on 23 June 1863. They had boarded the vessel as free passengers in Bristol on or about 9 February 1863. Shipping records list the Crompton family as follows: James (40, a labourer), Elizabeth (40, wife), Nancy (20, spinster), Joseph (18, labourer), John (16, labourer), Mary Ann (14, spinster), Alice (11), Major (10), Thomas (8), James (5), William (3) and Elizabeth (1).

Their daughter, Elizabeth, died on the voyage on February 14th, from diarrhoea. On arrival in Moreton Bay, the *Hannah More* was quarantined on St Helena Island in June/July 1863 and released from quarantine on 5th July. In just over a week, the family made themselves known to Brisbane:

BRISBANE. 14th July 1863

It will be seen that a talented family, who have recently arrived by the Hannah More, from England ... the "Cromptons" comprise a family of eight individuals, ranging from the ages of six and twenty years, and are a fair specimen of the Lancashire Operative class, self-reliant, and who, though poor, are benevolent, and ready to support a good cause.

... Mr. Crompton we may remark is connected with the Co-operative Cotton Company of Manchester, and will proceed in a few days to some land about to be brought under cultivation for the growth of cotton (Pimpama)... These people have come out under the co-operative system to grow cotton, &c., in Queensland, being the forerunners of some 6000 souls, who by this plan will in the course of a short time be provided with passage to Brisbane.

Cont. on page 9

Cont. from page 8



St Helena Island was used for quarantining immigrant ships in the 1860's. Photo courtesy of Qld Newspapers Collection

The Cromptons and other cooperative members on the *Hannah More* set out with great hopes for a better future. The Lancashire cotton famine had resulted in hundreds of families finding themselves impoverished due to a sudden, sharp decline of demand and prices for cotton in England from 1861. Poor and without a future, they headed to Queensland to establish cotton plantations around the Gold Coast area, paving the way for more Lancashire families to escape their dire circumstances in England. The Cromptons set off to Pimpama in 1863 but within a short time the Lancashire Cooperative Cotton Company began experiencing hard times.

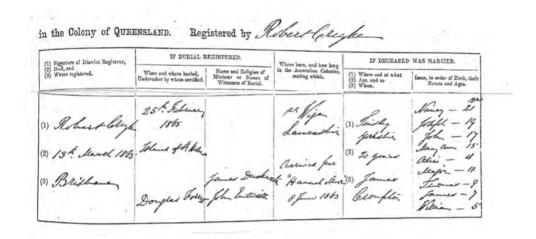
Difficulties in 1864 with the land orders through the Queensland Government, as well as other factors, ultimately led to the cotton cooperative being unsuccessful and by February 1865, stakeholder meetings showed major losses and it was declared a failure and closed down. Homeless, poor and in a foreign land, the Crompton family rallied as best they could and found any job they could quickly turn their hand to.

And so they found themselves on St Helena Island. Thomas Crompton describes the family living on St Helena Island and 'burning off for Mr James Campbell'. So it seems by the beginning of 1865, the family were definitely on St Helena, collecting oyster shells and coral, and burning these to produce lime, which they supplied to Mr. James Campbell's brick and cement enterprise.

Hard times dogged this family. In 1864, Charles Edwin Crompton was born in November 1863, potentially when the family were in Pimpama, but died on 10 May 1864. Less than a year later, Elizabeth died, aged 43, from phthisis or tuberculosis on St Helena Island on 24 February 1865. She was buried on St Helena the following day in the presence of two witnesses – John Entwistle and James Duckworth. Mr. John Entwistle was a fellow stakeholder in the Lancashire Cotton Cooperative and had also married daughter, Nancy Crompton, in August 1864. It seems there was more than one family unit on St Helena Island at the time of Elizabeth's death.

It is interesting that Elizabeth died on the Island but was not transported back to Brisbane to be buried. This either suggests that the family could not afford it, did not have the physical means to transport her or were living there and buried her where they were living at the time. They would have known that she was ill on setting out to St Helena due to the long nature of the illness. Interestingly there looks to be an undertaker there for the burial, a Mr. Douglas Folly/Folley. The location of the burial is unrecorded.

No.	DESCRIPTIONS.			(1) Cause of Death. (2) Duration of last illness.	Name and Surname	
	When and where died.	Name and Surname, Rank or Profession	Sex and Age.	(3) Nedical Attendent by whom ecrified, and (4) When he last saw deceased.	of Father and Mother, (maiden name) if known, with Rank or Profession.	Signature, Description und Residence of Informat
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Death certificate of Elizabeth Crompton. Image courtesy of Lisa Weightman.

It is not known exactly how long the family remained on St Helena Island. Death struck the family again when their son, John, died on 18 June 1866 and he was buried in the Presbyterian cemetery in Brisbane. 2 weeks later, on the 3rd July 1866, James Crompton was in front of the Police Court as a 'New Insolvent'. He stated his occupation as 'Lime Burner' and his residence as Victoria Point.

So it appears the family were on St Helena Island between 1865 and mid-1866 and that James remained in the occupation of lime burning after leaving the Island, working and living in and around Moreton Bay. But by 6 April 1870, the Land Commissioner approved an application from James Crompton for a 'Homestead Selection' of 125 acres at Cleveland. The following year, 1871, he remarried to Mary Cole, stating his occupation as 'farmer and contractor' and they had a son, Albert, in 1876. Later, James Crompton established a saw mill on his Cleveland land. An advertisement in the newspaper on 8th February 1878 read:-

Wanted. A good team of bullocks to get and draw logs to mill, and take sawn timber where required. For all particulars, apply James Crompton, Pioneer Saw Mill, Capalaba, off Cleveland Rd.

Yet 6 months later, he was again in court, once again with an application for insolvency. It appears James moved off the land at Cleveland, as he appears to be living closer to the city of Brisbane for much of the 1880s. His second wife died in 1886 and on 12 September 1887, James married for the third time to Mary Olsen in Toowoomba. James Crompton, aged 68, died in the Brisbane Hospital on 29th September 1890 and was buried at South Brisbane Cemetery.

Such a sad tale has now woven itself into St Helena's history. It's amazing to think that previously we did not have this family linked to the Island, and the significance of lime burning as an occupation on the Island before the prison was built was unrecognised.



St Helena Lime Kiln was built in 1869 by prisoners. Image courtesy Amanda Thepanda.

Next month's story: WARDER BOB MURRIE

^{1) &}lt;a href="http://www.foga.org.au/graves/crompton/crompton.htm">http://www.foga.org.au/graves/crompton/crompton.htm

²⁾ ibid

³⁾ Maryborough Chronicle, Wide Bay and Burnett Advertiser (Qld.: 1860-1947)

⁴⁾ Brisbane Courier, 6 April 1870

⁵⁾ Brisbane Courier, 8 February 1878

Our Committee and Volunteers..

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Friend of Society: John McIntyre

Late Life Members: Merv Beitz, Jack Sands, John Davies.

Patrons: Cr Peter Cumming and Joan Pease MP.

General Meetings

Afternoon set up: Jill Greenhill, Myrtle Beitz, Eric Sibley

Welcome at Door and Raffles: Jan Parnell, Jan Aplin, Lyn Shanks

Supper Co-ordinators: Ellen Coupland

Raffle Prizes: Committee

Minutes

Committee Meetings: Ellen Coupland General Meetings: Jill Greenhill

Newsletters

Editor: Sandy Liddle

Distribution (email): Sandy Liddle Distribution (mail out): Jill Greenhill

Resource Centre

Volunteers: Ian Wheeler, Ian Kennedy, Myrtle Beitz, Dawn Wilkins, Margaret Bulloch, Ellen Coupland, Jill

Greenhill, Jan Parnell

Research Enquiries: Jill Greenhill, Ellen Coupland

Publications for sale

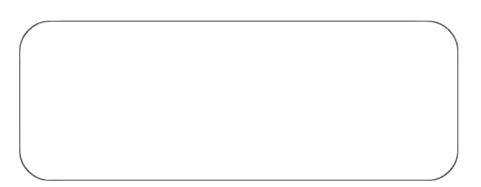
Wynnum Community Centre, Room 1.08, 105 Florence Street Wynnum Mon to Fri 10am to Noon, or Wynnum Manly Historical Society, PO Box 318, Wynnum Q 4178, or

Early Shipping in Moreton Bay June 1846 –December 1859 Vol 1	Davenport, Winifred and Mottram, Betty	1998	\$5
Early Shipping in Moreton Bay January 1860 –December 1863 Vol 2	Davenport, Winifred and Mottram, Betty	1998	\$5
History of Music in the Wynnum Manly Area 1900 - 1997	Nock, Betty	1998	\$5
History of Arts in the Wynnum Manly Area 1900 – 2003	Nock, Betty	2005	\$5
Mangroves to Moorings - Revisited	Beitz, Myrtle	2005	\$35
Story of Lota House	Beitz, Myrtle	2017	Donation
Lota House. Photographs and Images over 150 Years	Beitz, Myrtle	2017	\$15
From Saplings to Kero Tins A Peek at Gumdale's Past 2nd Ed.	Nalder Robyn	2017	\$15

Wynnum	Manly	Historical	Society	Inc.
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PO Box 318

Wynnum QLD 4178



Wynnum Manly Historical Society Inc.

Our aim is to gather and record local history before it is lost.

Membership application forms are available from the Resource Centre at the Wynnum Community Centre (formerly the Wynnum Central State School building), .Florence St, Wynnum

Membership costs per year (1 January to 31 December)

Single \$20.00 Family \$30.00

High School Student \$10.00

PLEASE NOTE: There is a joining fee of \$10.00 per person.



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